

COMMENTS ON THE SAMPLE OF RUBLE-DOLLAR RATIOS FOR TRANSFORMERS1. Comparability of items matched

The transformers appear to be well matched in every category, except that of specialty transformers, dry type. Specifications for steps and number of taps are not matched for this category. The weight differentials between US and Soviet types are very large (the Soviet transformers are indicated to be heavier than their US counterparts by a factor of two or more), and the ruble-dollar ratios obtained are much higher than the ratios obtained for other categories. Comparability of the specialty transformers should be rechecked before the ratios shown here are accepted.

2. Representativeness of the sample

Although all major categories of transformers are represented, the average sizes of US power and distribution transformers in most of the categories used in the 1954 Census of Manufactures are smaller than the average sizes for the same categories in the sample. In the USSR, however, the average sizes for the US census categories are probably higher because the Soviet product mix is more heavily weighted with higher capacity power and distribution transformers for industrial use. In addition, in the USSR the electric power industry tends to transmit power at higher voltages than is customary in the US. Specific information about the Soviet product mix of transformers is not available.

Price increases from 1954 to 1955 in the US may account for the apparent difference in average sizes of power and distribution transformers between the 1954 census and the sample. If prices are assumed to have remained nearly the same in 1955 as in 1954 (as well as the product mix), however, it is concluded that the sizes included in the sample are too large to be representative of the US product mix. The following average prices were calculated from the 1954 Census of Manufactures:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Price</u>
Power and distribution transformers Liquid filled (all voltages) and dry type transformers above 600 volts for distribution and power services:	
50 KVA and under, 15,000 volts and below	\$ 235
51 KVA to and including 200 KVA, 15,000 volts and below	\$ 781
201 KVA to and including 500 KVA, 15,000 volts and below; and 500 KVA and under of voltages above 15,000	\$2,412

The sizes of specialty transformers in the sample are probably more representative of the US product mix than are the power and distribution transformers. The largest single category of specialty transformers in the 1954

Census of Manufactures, fluorescent lamp ballasts, however, averaged \$2.31 per unit, indicating that some higher priced items should be included in the sample. The sample of current transformers is probably adequate for this purpose. No information is available on the Soviet product mix of specialty transformers.

3. Miscellaneous comments

The SIC code for transformers is 3615, not 3612.

Footnote 1/ is not clear. Which is the low voltage rating and which the higher? The listed ratings usually indicate only that the lower voltages of both the primary and secondary windings can be tapped off. If two prices are relevant, the items should be listed as two separate transformers.